

REMARKS

This Rule 312 Amendment is submitted to consolidate the changes that have been made to the claims between Applicants' last Amendment and Response filed August 22, 2008, and December 10, 2008 when the Examiner issued the Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37) and the accompanying Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due (PTOL-85).

No substantive changes have been made by this Amendment in any of the allowed Claims. The only purpose of this Amendment is to consolidate the allowed Claims in their final allowed form in the new Listing of Claims.

Since the Amendment and Response filed August 22, 2008, the following changes to the Claims have been mutually agreed to by Applicants and the Examiner:

(1) Claim amendments submitted as part of the Amendment and Response filed August 22, 2008 were accepted by the Examiner. Accordingly, in the Listing of Claims submitted herewith, the underlinings and strikethroughs denoting those Claim amendments have been deleted, and those "clean" versions of the Claims have been identified as "Previously Presented."

(2) Claims that were identified as "Withdrawn" in the Amendment and Response filed August 22, 2008 (pursuant to an earlier Election of Species Requirement) have now been allowed and the Election requirement has been withdrawn. Accordingly, in the Listing of Claims submitted herewith, those previously "Withdrawn" Claims are now identified instead as "Previously Presented."

(3) Applicants' attorney agreed to a proposed Examiner's Amendment in a telephone conference on December 3, 2008. The Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37) of

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December 10, 2008 accurately reflects the substance of the agreed Examiner's Amendment. In the Listing of Claims submitted herewith, the Claims affected by the Examiner's Amendment have been rewritten in "clean" form to reflect the Examiner's Amendment, and those Claims have been identified as "Previously Presented."

It is hoped that the new, consolidated Listing of Claims presented in this Rule 312 Amendment will assist the USPTO in fully and accurately printing the allowed Claims in the issued Letters Patent.

Because this Amendment relates solely to the formal matters of properly identifying the status of the Claims and reflecting amendments to the Claims as allowed, it is respectfully requested that this Rule 312 Amendment be approved and entered.

Respectfully submitted,



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